

CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

- 1 A method for managing removable storage media, comprising:
 - determining that a first removable storage media on which data is stored needs to be replaced, said first removable storage media is identified by a persistent worldwide name;
 - creating a copy of said data on a second removable storage media;
 - assigning said persistent worldwide name to said second removable storage media.
- 2 The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - removing said persistent worldwide name from said first removable storage media.
- 3 The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step further comprises:
 - detecting a failure of said first removable storage media.
- 4 The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step further comprises:
 - detecting a reduced performance of said first removable storage media.
- 5 The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - using a user interface to direct a library controller to replace said first removable storage media.
- 6 The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step further comprises:
 - detecting a need for an upgrade of said first removable storage media.
- 7 The method of claim 1, wherein the creating step further comprises:
 - obtaining said copy of said data by RAID parity calculations.
- 8 The method of claim 1, wherein the creating step further comprises:
 - obtaining said copy of said data from a backup copy of said data.
- 9 The method of claim 1, wherein the creating step further comprises:
 - obtaining said copy of said data by reconstruction of said data from one or more sources.
- 10 The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - storing said persistent worldwide name in a cartridge memory.
- 11 The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - storing said persistent worldwide name in a storage media of said second removable media.

12 The method of claim 1, further comprising:
creating a copy of a contents of a first cartridge memory of said first removable storage media in a second cartridge memory of said second removable storage media.

13 A system for managing removable storage media comprising:
a first removable storage media for storing data;
a persistent worldwide name associated with said a first removable storage media;
a second removable storage media;
a processor coupled to said first removable storage media and coupled to said second removable storage media, wherein said processor creates a copy of said data on said second removable storage media and assigns said persistent worldwide name to said second removable media.

14 The system of claim 13, wherein said processor removes said persistent worldwide name from said first removable storage media.

15 The system of claim 13, further comprising:
a failure detection apparatus for detecting a failure of said first removable storage media.

16 The system of claim 13, further comprising:
a performance detection apparatus for detecting a performance of said first removable storage media.

17 The system of claim 13, further comprising:
an upgrade detection apparatus for detecting a need for an upgrade of said first removable storage media.

18 The system of claim 13, further comprising:
a library controller; and
a user interface coupled to said library controller, wherein said user interface is used for inputting information to direct said library controller to replace said first removable storage media.

19 The system of claim 13, further comprising:
At least one RAID device coupled to said processor, wherein said processor obtains said copy of said data by RAID parity calculations.

20 The system of claim 13, further comprising:

A backup storage device coupled to said processor, wherein said processor obtains said copy of said data from said backup storage device.

21 The system of claim 13, further comprising:

one or more storage devices coupled to said processor, wherein said processor obtains said copy of said data from said one or more storage devices by reconstruction of data from said one or more sources.

22 The system of claim 13, further comprising:

a cartridge memory associated with said second removable storage media and coupled to said processor, wherein said processor stores said persistent worldwide name in said cartridge memory.

23 The system of claim 13, further comprising:

A storage media associated with said second removable storage media and coupled to said processor, wherein said processor stores said persistent worldwide name in said storage media.

24 An automated data storage library comprising a system for managing removable storage media comprising:

a first removable storage media for storing data;

a persistent worldwide name associated with said first removable storage media;

a second removable storage media;

a processor coupled to said first removable storage media and coupled to said second removable storage media, wherein said processor creates a copy of said data on said second removable storage media and assigns said persistent worldwide name to said second removable media.

25 An article of manufacture comprising a data storage medium tangibly embodying a program of machine-readable instructions executable by a digital processing apparatus to perform method steps for managing removable storage media, comprising:

determining that a first removable storage media identified by a persistent worldwide name needs to be replaced, wherein data is stored on said first removable storage media;

creating a copy of said data on a second removable storage media;

assigning said persistent worldwide name to said second removable storage media.

- 26 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein said method further comprises:
removing said persistent worldwide name from said first removable storage media.
- 27 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the determining step further comprises:
detecting a failure of said first removable storage media.
- 28 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the determining step further comprises:
detecting a reduced performance of said first removable storage media.
- 29 The article of manufacture of claim 25, further comprising:
using a user interface to direct a library controller to replace said first removable storage media.
- 30 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the determining step further comprises:
detecting a need for an upgrade of said first removable storage media.
- 31 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the creating step further comprises:
obtaining said copy of said data by RAID parity calculations.
- 32 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the creating step further comprises:
obtaining said copy of said data from a backup copy of said data.
- 33 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the creating step further comprises:
obtaining said copy of said data by reconstruction of said data from one or more sources.
- 34 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein said method further comprises:
storing said persistent worldwide name in a cartridge memory.
- 35 The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein said method further comprises:
storing said persistent worldwide name in a storage media of said second removable media.